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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/601,562	06/24/2003	Young-Gu Kim	1293.1729	7742
21171	7590	06/05/2006	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			VU, TUAN A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2193	

DATE MAILED: 06/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/601,562	KIM, YOUNG-GU	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Tuan A. Vu	2193	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 6/24/03; 11/19/04 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/11/04; 9/2/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application filed 6/24/2003.

In view of a preliminary amendment filed 11/19/04, claims 1-21 have been submitted for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

3. Claims 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

The Federal Circuit has recently applied the practical application test in determining whether the claimed subject matter is statutory under 35 U.S.C. § 101. The practical application test requires that a “useful, concrete, and tangible result” be accomplished. An “abstract idea” when practically applied is eligible for a patent. As a consequence, an invention, which is eligible for patenting under 35 U.S.C. § 101, is in the “useful arts” when it is a machine, manufacture, process or composition of matter, which produces a concrete, tangible, and useful result. The test for practical application is thus to determine whether the claimed invention produces a “useful, concrete and tangible result”.

Specifically, claim 9 recites an apparatus comprising a first unit installing a device driver using an input file; and a second unit which re-installs the device driver using the input file when the re-installation is requested. From the specifications, these recited units are computer-executable software-implemented functional entities; and the claim lacks teaching to enable one of skill in the art to reasonably construe that a hardware or tangible device is supporting the functionality of the software entities thus claimed. Without any such tangible support or hardware element to carry the functionality of software components, the claimed invention is not reasonably perceived as able to yield a tangible result. The claim hence fails to fulfill the

Practical Application Test as set forth above; and is rejected for leading to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 10-11 are rejected for also failing to provide a hardware-based or tangible embodiment that would support the functionality of the recited elements of the base claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

5. Claims 1-4, 9-10, 12-15, 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Pro/Intel, “Installing the Intel Pro/Wireless 2011 LAN PC Card in Windows 2000 Professional”, Jan 08 2002, *WinBook Tech Article* - article # WBTA09000774 (hereinafter IntelWBTA).

As per claim 1, IntelWBTA discloses a method of installing a device driver in a computer to drive a device that performs a predetermined function, the method comprising: installing in the computer the device driver using a device driver file provided from the outside (e.g. steps 4-10, pg. 3); and copying and storing the device driver file (e.g. step 10, pg. 3).

As per claim 2, IntelWBTA discloses re-installing the device driver in the computer using the stored device driver file (e.g. steps 4-13, pg. 4-6) when re-installation of the device driver is requested (e.g. *Select Setup.exe* –step 4, pg. 5).

As per claim 3, IntelWBTA generating an icon for re-installation (e.g. steps 3-4 pg. 5) of the device driver after the device driver file is copied and stored.

As per claim 4, IntelWBTA discloses re-booting the computer after the device driver file is copied and stored (e.g. *Restart ... prompted by Windows* -- step 11, pg. 3).

As per claim 9, IntelWBTA discloses an apparatus installing a device driver to drive a device that performs a predetermined function, the apparatus comprising:

a first driver installation unit installing in the apparatus the device driver using a device driver file input from the outside while storing a device driver file (e.g. steps 4-10, pg. 2-3); and

a second driver installation unit, which re-installs the device driver using the stored device driver file input from the first driver installation (e.g. steps 4-13, pg. 4-6) when re-installation of the device driver is requested (e.g. *Select Setup.exe* –step 4, pg. 5).

As per claim 10, IntelWBTA discloses the first driver installation unit wherein:

a file examination unit, which examines whether the device driver file is input and outputs an examination result (e.g. *insert CD, auto run...window explaining ... features* - steps 1-2, pg. 1) as a first control signal;

a first installation preparing unit, which prepares for installation of the device driver in response to the first control signal and outputs a preparation completion signal (e.g. *message ... has found ... device* - steps 4-7, pg. 2) representing whether the preparation of installation is completed;

a first installation unit, which installs the device driver in response to the preparation completion signal (steps 8-10 – pg. 3); and a storing unit, which copies and stores the device driver file (step 10- pg. 3 – Note: installation finished reads on file being stored by virtue of inherent teaching).

As per claim 12, IntelWBTA discloses a machine-readable storage storing at least one program controlling a computing device according to a process comprising:

receiving a device driver file; installing the device driver in the computer; and copying and storing in the computer the device driver file (e.g. steps e.g. steps 4-10, pg. 2-3).

As per claim 13, IntelWBTA discloses allowing re-installation of the device driver in the computer using the stored device driver file (steps 4-13, pg. 4-6) when re-installation of the device driver is requested (*Select Setup.exe* –step 4, pg. 5).

As per claim 14, IntelWBTA discloses determining whether the device driver file is input (*insert CD, auto run...window explaining ... features* - steps 1-2, pg. 1); preparing for installation of the device driver in the computer when determined that the device driver file is input (e.g. steps 4-7, pg. 2); and installing the device driver in the computer (steps 8-10 – pg. 3).

As per claim 15, IntelWBTA discloses generating a device driver re-installation icon; and upon selecting the device driver re-installing icon (steps 3-4 pg. 5 – Note: icon in select *Select.exe* step 4 reads on selecting re-installation icon), re-installing the input device driver using the stored device driver file without accessing the input device driver file.

As per claim 17, IntelWBTA discloses determining whether the device driver file is input; preparing for installation of the device driver in the computer when determined that the device driver file is input; and installing the device driver in the computer (refer to the rejection of claim 14)

As per claim 18, IntelWBTA discloses wherein the installing of the device driver is performed after the copying and storing (e.g. *finished installing software required for this device*

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- steps 4-10, pg. 2-3 – Note: run ‘Setup.exe’ in step 4, pg. 4 reads on installation after the driver is loaded in step 10 of pg. 3) of the device driver file is performed.

As per claim 19, IntelWBTA discloses the copying and storing of the device driver file is performed (e.g. steps 4-14, pg. 4-6) after the installing of the device driver is performed.

As per claim 20, IntelWBTA discloses wherein the copying and storing of the device driver file and the installing of the device driver are performed, at the same time (e.g. steps 4-10, pg. 2-3; steps 4-14, pg. 4-6 – Note: inherent copying of file for storing in the course of installing a device driver reads on copying and installing being performed in one instance of installation).

As per claim 21, IntelWBTA discloses a method of installing a device driver in a computer to drive a device that performs a predetermined function, the method comprising: inputting files having at least a device driver file used in installing in the computer the device driver (*insert CD, auto run...window explaining ... features* - steps 1-2, pg. 1); and copying and storing the device driver file from among the input files (e.g. *finished installing software required for this device* - steps 4-10, pg. 2-3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 5-8, 11 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

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as applied to claims 1, 9, and 13 above, and further in view of Harms, USPubN: 2002/0042911 (hereinafter Harms).

As per claim 5, IntelWBTA discloses preparing for reinstallation of the device driver in the computer using the stored device driver file, and re-installing the device driver in the computer using the stored device driver file if determining whether the device driver is requested to be re-installed in the computer (see steps 4-10, pg. 2-3; steps 4-13, pg. 4-6); but does not explicitly teach determining whether a previously installed device driver exists in the computer, and when determined that the device driver is requested to be re-installed in the computer uninstalling the previously installed device driver. The uninstalling of a driver destined for a same functionality or a version thereof coming from a previously installed older installation of a driver was a known concept in the technologies of driver installation; and Harms shows that in order to store to the registry the files corresponding to a driver targeted to be installed, some uninstalling has to take place (see para 0037, pg. 3) in order for the same vendor's files to be put into registry for reinstallation of the latest driver (see para 0039, pg. 3; para 0040-0043, pg. 4). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to manage the preinstallation process as by IntelWBTA so that if a previously installed version of same vendor exists in the system registry this set of version files would asked to be removed or uninstalled prior to reinstallation of the new driver files as taught by Harms because by removing the files, the chances of interference from another set of files for the intended functionality of the target application whose driver is reinstalled would be obviated, enabling the proper recognition -- hence operation -- of the desired version/instance of device (see *not interfere, can properly detect* - para 0003-0004, pg 1).

As per claim 6, IntelWBTA teach detecting a location to store a file and rebooting prior to reinstallation, i.e. the reinstallation of the device driver in the computer using the stored device driver file with preparing for re-installation of the device driver in the computer using the stored device driver file after the computer is re-booted (see steps 1-13, pg. 3-6); but does not explicitly teach registering a location where the device driver file is stored, after the previously installed device driver is uninstalled; and re-booting the computer and preparing for reinstallation of the device driver in the computer using the stored device driver file, according to the location of the device driver file, when determined that the previously installed device driver does not exist in the computer. But the reinstallation following a uninstall has been addressed with Harms' teaching vendor data entry into a registry location and reboot prior to reinstallation (see reboot – para 0036; para 0038-0043 pg. 3-4) from claim 5; thus, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the uninstall prior to reboot and reinstallation as set forth by Harms, using registry location storage in light of the rationale from claim 5 above. One would be motivated to do so because this would enable to determine which registered files are in the system when an installation such as IntelWBTA's driver install is pending and because these files are required to be deleted prior for the latest version of files to be reinstalled to avoid interference as addressed above.

As per claim 7, IntelWBTA (in view of Harms) discloses the re-installing of the device driver further comprises re-booting (refer to claim 4) the computer after the device driver is re-installed in the computer.

As per claim 8, IntelWBTA only discloses one type of device driver and does not discloses wherein the device predetermined function is at least one printing, scanning, faxing,

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and digital image taking functions. Harms discloses that a driver to be installed can be an attached device for which pertinent software can be uninstalled and reinstalled; and that such device can be a printer, scanner or display device (see para 0024, pg. 2). In light of the common practices that computer operate with devices being attached thereto, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply the driver installation as set forth above by IntelWBTA so that the targeted driver can also be that for any device attached to a computer, e.g. a scanner or a printer, because hardware/devices attached to a computer like network card, printer or graphics card, do come with pertinent software driver and the indispensable vendor drivers such as by IntelWBTA or Harms; and having the most appropriate software files to operate any such attached device would enable the application using such device to operate, lest such attached devices would be improperly supported or misrepresented for proper usage (see Harms SUMMARY).

As per claim 11, IntelWBTA discloses that the second driver installation unit comprises:
an installation request examination unit, which examines whether a re-installation of the device driver is requested and outputs an examination result as a second control signal (e.g. *insert CD, auto run...window explaining ... features* - steps 1-2, pg. 1; *click Next* - steps 4-10, pg. 2-3 – Note: *Next* button being clicked reads on requests being translated into result thereby more *Next* clicking action can be effectuated);

a second installation preparing unit, which prepares for re-installation of the device driver using the stored device driver file in response to the third control signal, and outputs a preparation completion signal representing whether the preparation is completed (*finished installing software required for this device* - steps 4-10, pg. 2-3 - Note: *Next* button being clicked

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reads on requests being translated into result thereby more *Next* clicking action can be effectuated); and

a second installation unit, which re-installs the device driver by reading the stored device driver file in response to the preparation completion signal input from the second installation preparation unit (e.g. *finished installing software required for this device* - steps 4-10, pg. 2-3 – Note: run ‘Setup.exe’ in step 4, pg. 4 reads on installation after acknowledging input signal that the driver is loaded in step 10 of pg. 3).

But IntelWBTA does not explicitly disclose a driver examination unit, which examines whether a previously installed device driver exists in response to the second control signal and outputs another examination result as a third control signal and driver uninstallation unit, which uninstalls the previously installed device driver in response to the third control signal and outputs an uninstallation completion signal representing whether the uninstallation is completed; and a second installation unit in response to the uninstallation completion signal re-installs the driver upon an output signal that uninstallation has completed. But this uninstallation signal being recognized prior to reinstallation has been addressed in claims 5 and 6 above.

As per **claim 16**, this claim corresponds to the subject matter of claim 11, hence is rejected with the corresponding rationale as set forth therein.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan A Vu whose telephone number is (272) 272-3735. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-4:30PM/Mon-Fri.

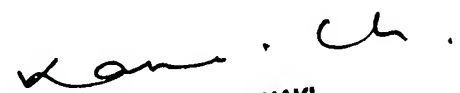
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kakali Chaki can be reached on (571)272-3719.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-3735 (for non-official correspondence – please consult Examiner before using) or 571-273-8300 (for official correspondence) or redirected to customer service at 571-272-3609.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: 571-272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VAT
May 16, 2006


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